



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Southern District of Indiana*

*10 West Market Street  
Suite 2100  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

*(317)226-6333  
TDD (317)226-5438*

*FAX NUMBERS:  
Criminal (317)226-6125  
Administration (317)226-5176  
Civil (317)226-5027  
FLU (317) 226-6133  
OCDETF (317)226-5953*

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**CONTACT PERSON:**

Claudia Cummings  
(317) 229-2477 office  
(317) 590-7928 mobile

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKER SENTENCED**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that MICHAEL D. COVERT, 29, Brazil, Indiana, was sentenced to 78 months imprisonment yesterday by U.S. District Judge John Daniel Tinder following his guilty plea to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. The charges resulted from a three month investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service, Vigo County Drug Task Force, Terre Haute Police Department, and Vincennes Police Department. The investigation included wire surveillance conducted over four cellular telephones.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Bradley A. Blackington, who prosecuted

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the case for the government, Judge Tinder also imposed four years supervised release following COVERT's release from imprisonment. During the period of supervised release, COVERT must undergo random urinalysis and is subject to random searches of his person, residence, and vehicle.

COVERT was an upper-level methamphetamine distributor for a methamphetamine trafficking organization operating in Terre Haute from December, 2002 through September 19, 2003. The organization trafficked approximately 50 pounds of methamphetamine, with a street value of over \$2 million, during this time period.

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